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LB 596, 608A, 608

Revenue Committee attempted to anticipate all the decouplings that would be necessary in order to protect ourselves. And I know we have just today and tomorrow, probably, available to us to do any further work in that area, if there's any that needs to be done, but let me just ask you this. Has the staff had any opportunity to review the final version of that bill and is there any further decoupling that we can or should do?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: What I've heard is a relatively offhand conversation that we were checking on whether or not there might have been some additional business tax changes. Generally speaking, the vast majority of the bill we predicted in LB 596, and we've created a good safety net for ourselves. But it would be fair to say that we need to check on whether there might be some smaller business exemptions that might have been granted, or business tax changes, that we should check, and I will ask that that be done. We have a limited amount of time to do it, but to the best of our ability we've gotten the lion's share. We're talking about a fragment of the tail at this point that we might have missed, but we'll look.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Senator, thank you. I know you've been on top of it all along. I just wanted to indicate that if further time in the Legislature or on the floor was necessary in order to finish up that process I, for one, would be willing to spend that time. Thank you.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Returning to Senator Landis on the Landis amendment. To close, Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. This actually winds up being a reduction, but the reason for that is that the original LB 608 was expensive, and it was expensive because it had a number of auditors reviewing the practices of our LB 775 companies. Although it reduces \$7,000 in the first year, and \$113,000 in the second for one program, and 47...and another reduction of 47 in the other program, it does wind up being a substantial A bill, and that is \$108,000 in 2004, and 172 in 2005 for LB 608